

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1920.

THOMAS J. FLETCHER

M.B. & C. M. (Ed) M.B.C.S. (Eng)

HEALTH REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To the Chairman and Members of the Castle Donington Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Seventh Annual Report on the Health and General Sanitary Conditions of the District.

Speaking generally, the health of the District during the year has been very good - As stated in a special Column, the number of deaths from all causes is Eighty - Of these three eighths ($\frac{3}{8}$) occurred in persons over Sixty five years of age - and one fifth ($\frac{1}{5}$ th) during the first twelve months of life. There has been no marked epidemic of any infectious disease, but a few cases of Pneumonia, Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Malarial Fever and Scarlatina have been notified at different times during the year.

Natural and Social conditions of the District.

The population in 1911 (the last Census) was 6416

Estimated in 1920 (there is probably no marked alteration)

The area of the District is 15,938^{acres} /, slightly over 22 square miles.

The average Elevations above sea level are :-

Hemington 100 feet

Castle Donington 220 do

Diseworth. 183 do

Isley Walton. 319 do

Breedon. 250 do

Kegworth. 146 do

The principal geological formations are :-

Breedon - Keuper Sandstone and Marl, carboniferous limestone.

Castle Donington - Keuper Sandstone and marl.

Kegworth - Keuper Sandstone and marl.

Diseworth, Hemington, Isley Walton - New red marl.

Lockington - Alluvium principally, but the Village stands on new red marl.

The rateable value in April 1920 was £40,222 consisting

(a) Agricultural land £18478.

(b) Buildings and other hereditaments £21744.

The principal industries are Agriculture, Basket making, Hosiery making, Brewing and Quarries.

None of the industries above referred to are specially injurious to health - Basket making, being a sedentary employment conducted in a necessarily damp atmosphere, is the least healthy.

No imported labour for fruit or pea picking is employed in the district.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS. One hundred and thirty nine births were registered during the year as compared with Eighty seven in 1919 - giving a birth rate for the year of 22.64 per thousand of the population.

The Derby Infirmary, the Loughborough Dispensary and the Nottingham and Leicester Hospitals were utilised to the fullest extent for all accidents and acute illnesses requiring such attention as could not be given in the patients' homes - Also for the removal of Adenoids in Children - Several of the poorer patients were, on occasion treated as out patients at the above Institutions.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY. - Most of the houses are now supplied with town water, which is of a good quality but rather hard. A few of the houses in the towns and all the villages are supplied by Wells - Two samples of the latter were taken for Analysis - In the one case the Well was cleansed and repaired and in the other the public supply was substituted - The supply is practically constant and scarcity is quite exceptional.

There has been no pollution of rivers during the year.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE. Castle Donington has a system of sewerage to

drain the whole place.- The sewage is pumped up and passed through filter beds at a Sewage Farm.

In Kegworth there is a similar arrangement.

In Breedon on the Hill, Diseworth, Lockington and Hemington the sewage empties into the Brooks which are kept thoroughly cleaned out.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In Castle Donington there are 223 water closets - the remaining accommodation being comprised of Privy Middens and Pan Closets.

In Kegworth there are 221 water closets - the remainder being Privy Middens and Pan Closets.

Breedon	}	All supplied with Privy Middens and Pan Closets and the refuse is emptied and carted away when required.
Diseworth		
Lockington		
Hemington.		

As regards scavenging there are men employed in the District to empty the Privy Middens when required and to cast the refuse on to the land.

The Sanitary arrangements of the District are carried on under the direction of an Inspector his report is as follows :-

Total number of inspections made for all purposes. 1846

Notices served 499 - (a) Informal 471 (b) Statutory 28

Complaints 17 which were remedied at once.

Premises - Number inspected	1846.
Nuisances abated.	223.
Pools, Ditches, Gutters, Watercourses.	
Number inspected.	28.
Nuisances abated.	16.
Privy Middens - Number repaired.	14.
Converted into Water Closets.	17.
Water Closets - New provided.	5.
Cesspools Repaired Cleaned &c.	8.
Drain traps &c. Number inspected.	232.
Nuisances abated.	47.

Offensive accumulations.	Number inspected.	26.
	Nuisances abated.	26.
Insanitary houses.	Number inspected.	4.
	Limewashed repaired &c.	4.
Slaughter houses.	Number in District.	16.
	Number of inspections of premises.	192.
	Unhealthy areas.	Nil.
Number of seizures)	Beasts.	2.
of diseased carcasses.)	Sheep.	1.
Infectious diseased and disinfection.		
	Number of houses affected.	15.
	Number of house rooms disinfected.	22.
	Number of Schools disinfected.	5.
Water Supply.		
	Number of Samples taken for Analysis.	2.
	Well cleansed repaired &c.	1.
	Public supply substituted for well.	1.
	Number of dwellinghouses inspected.	27.
	Number of Inspections made.	41.
	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were found.	4.
	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied.	4.
	Number of Milk Sellers in the district.	87.
	Number of inspections made of premises.	736.
	Number of inspections made at milking time.	604.
	Number of premises requiring limewashing.	27.
	Number limewashed.	27.
Factories, and Workshops.		
	Number on Register to include Bakehouses.	72.
	Number of nuisances abated.	6.
Bakehouses only.		
	Number on register.	16.
	Number of nuisances abated.	3.

SCHOOLS.- With the exception of the Kegworth Council Schools

the Sanitary condition of all the Schools in the District is quite good. The Castle Donington and Kegworth Schools are all supplied with town water.- Diseworth with well water - Hemington with well water - Breedon with well water.

The Kegworth, Diseworth, Castle Donington and Hemington Schools were closed for varying periods during March April and May owing to the prevalence of measles - Also the Infant School at Kegworth during part of August for the same reason. The same School (Kegworth Infant) was closed in December on account of Whooping Cough, also at the same time the Breedon Schools for Measles and Scarlet Fever.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever was the most prevalent disease - ten cases - three in one house - the source of infection could not be detected. Diphtheria Antitoxin was used in all suspicious cases when seen early - supplied free of cost to those who could not afford to pay for it. No case of Encephalitis Lethargica was reported.

The total number of cases notified was twenty six viz - Scarlet Fever 10 - Tuberculosis 8. Diphtheria 4. Pneumonia 3 - Malaria 1.

Houses infected 24.

DEATHS - Diphtheria 1 - Tuberculosis 7. Pneumonia 2 .

Preventive measures - Infected houses were visited and printed sheets left giving instructions in the management of cases and the precautions necessary to prevent the spread of the disease. - In all cases post cards were supplied to be returned to me at the termination of the illness, the premises being then stoved with Formalin under the supervision of the Inspector - No cases of Small Pox - Enteric Fever or Puerperal Fever was notified.

Tuberculosis eight cases were notified (1) at Wilson (2) at Kegworth (4) at Castle Donington (1) at Breedon. Seven deaths were certified as due to this disease - They

occurred as follows :-

Castle Donington.

Sex.	Age	Occupation.
Male.	48.	Gasworks stoker.
Male.	18.	Soldier.

Hemington.

Sex.	Age.	Occupation.
Female.	28.	Domestic.
Female.	9.	School girl.

Kegworth.

Sex.	Age.	Occupation.
Female.	36.	Domestic.
Female.	28.	Domestic.
Female.	10 months.	

None notifiable Infectious Disease - There were some cases of Whooping Cough, Measles and Influenza - The Influenza was of a mild type and not prevalent - One death was reported from Influenza and three from Measles.

The Cleansing and disinfection of Verminous persons is carried out at the Shardlow workhouse on occasion.

TUBERCULOSIS - The Notification of this disease is being carried out more generally now than it used to be - No means have been adopted to enforce the regulations and secure prompt notification and it is to be hoped that such may not be required especially as the general public is becoming much more alive to the infectious nature of the disease.

(1) The Institutions for the treatment &c. of Tuberculosis patients in this District who are Nationally Insured and otherwise are at Coalville, Hinokley, Mousley and Charnwood Forest and the help they have given during the year has been of undoubted benefit - especially in the way of indoor Hospital treatment and in the provision of Home Shelters.

(11) There has been frequent co operation with the County Medical Officer of Health in the management of such cases

especially as regards school children.

(III) Not practicable in this district.

(IV) do

(V) This has been done in every case so far as possible.

(VI) Could not be done here.

(VII) One of the skin tests has been tried on 2 or 3 patients.
Result unsatisfactory.

(VIII) Sanatorium treatment is the most satisfactory when carried out long enough - next comes home treatment with a Shelter provided if necessary - a long way after this comes treatment at Dispensaries, especially when this necessitates (as I am told it sometimes does) a long purposeless journey in all weathers.

(IX) No dental treatment provided.

(X) This has been restricted to the occasional help of Parish Nurses and the provision of Malt Extract and Cod Liver Oil if the patients will take it.

(XI) Mostly attended to at the local hospitals.

(XII) Health Visitors are employed for this purpose.

(XIII) No arrangements have been made for the finding of employment.

(XIV) Several shelters have been found but I cannot say how many.

(XV) Effect of occupation not noticed locally.

(XVI) Free Ventilation is used as a preventative and overcrowding has been combatted so far as possible.

VENEREAL DISEASE.- There has been very little apparently in this District during the year - So little indeed that active co-operation with the Rural District Council has not been called for - From a limited observation I should say that patients are not at all eager to avail themselves of the facilities provided for diagnosis and treatment - quite the contrary.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There is no centre in this district and I am not aware of a demand for such.

(2) There is a Hospital available at Swannington now, for the treatment of Scarlet Fever - Also one at Loughborough for the other infectious diseases - They have only lately been opened up to the District - During the year one case at least of Diphtheria was sent to Draycott Hospital.

(4) Numerous examinations for Tubercle Bacilli were made by the Clinical Research Association - Also swabs from the throat for Diphtheria - The reports for the most part were of a negative nature but a few confirmed the diagnosis.

HOUSING.

The general housing conditions are good.

New houses erected during the year by private enterprise 2

Extent of Shortage of houses estimated at 75.

Measures taken to meet the shortage - Four are being built at Kegworth and four at Castle Donington.

The number of houses at present in the District are 1502.

Enclosed is a table of Statistics received from Somerset House, with reference to the population of the District - The number of births and deaths that have occurred during the year - and the causes of the latter - It discloses a very satisfactory state of things in general - More so than any previous one that it has been my privilege to lay before you.

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I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully

T. J. Fletcher.

March 31st 1921.

Causes of death in

Castle Donington R. D. 1920.

Causes of death.		Males.	Females.
Civilians only.			
	All causes.	39.	41.
3.	Measles.	2.	1.
6.	Diphtheria and croup.		1.
7.	Influenza.		1.
9.	Pulmonary tuberculosis.	1.	3.
10.	Tuberculous meningitis.		1.
11.	Other tuberculous diseases.	1.	1.
12.	Cancer, malignant disease.	6.	6.
15.	Organic heart disease.	5.	7.
17.	Pneumonia (all forms)	2.	2.
19.	Diarrhoea &c (under 2 years)		1.
20.	Appendicitis & typhlitis.	1.	
25.	Congenital debility &c.	2.	3.
26.	Violence apart from suicide.		2.
28.	Other defined diseases.	19.	12.
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.			
	Total.	6.	7.
	Illegit.	1.	2.
Total births.		78.	61.
	Legitimate.	72.	56.
	Illegitimate.	6.	5.
Population (For births & deaths)		6137.	

General Register Office.

Somerset House.

London W. C.

April 1921.

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